

agreement with that subcommittee to settle a complaint on which the Statement is based, that agreement, unless the respondent requests otherwise, shall be in writing and signed by the respondent and the respondent's counsel, the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the subcommittee, and the outside counsel, if any.

(i) Statements or information derived solely from a respondent or his counsel during any settlement discussions between the Committee or a subcommittee thereof and the respondent shall not be included in any report of the subcommittee or the Committee or otherwise publicly disclosed without the consent of the respondent;

(j) Whenever a motion to establish an investigative subcommittee does not prevail, the Committee shall promptly send a letter to the respondent informing him of such vote.

(k) Witnesses shall be afforded a reasonable period of time, as determined by the Committee or subcommittee, to prepare for an appearance before an investigative subcommittee or for an adjudicatory hearing and to obtain counsel.

(l) Prior to their testimony, witnesses shall be furnished a printed copy of the Committee's Rules of Procedure and the provisions of the Rules of the House of Representatives applicable to the rights of witnesses.

(m) Witnesses may be accompanied by their own counsel for the purpose of advising them concerning their constitutional rights. The Chairman may punish breaches of order and decorum, and of professional responsibility on the part of counsel, by censure and exclusion from the hearings; and the Committee may cite the offender to the House of Representatives for contempt.

(n) Each witness subpoenaed to provide testimony or other evidence shall be provided the same per diem rate as established, authorized, and regulated by the Committee on House Administration for Members, officers and employees of the House, and as the Chairman considers appropriate, actual expenses of travel to or from the place of examination. No compensation shall be authorized for attorney's fees or for a witness' lost earnings. Such per diem may not be paid if a witness had been summoned at the place of examination.

(o) With the approval of the Committee, a witness, upon request, may be provided with a transcript of his or her deposition or other testimony taken in executive session, or, with the approval of the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member, may be permitted to examine such transcript in the office of the Committee. Any such request shall be in writing and shall include a statement that the witness, and counsel, agree to maintain the confidentiality of all executive session proceedings covered by such transcript.

RULE 27. FRIVOLOUS FILINGS

If a complaint or information offered as a complaint is deemed frivolous by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the Committee, the Committee may take such action as it, by an affirmative vote of its members, deems appropriate in the circumstances.

RULE 28. REFERRALS TO FEDERAL OR STATE AUTHORITIES

Referrals made under clause 3(a)(3) of Rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives may be made by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of the Committee.

BUTLER BULLDOGS ADVANCE TO SWEET SIXTEEN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentle-

woman from Indiana (Ms. CARSON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Butler University, Indianapolis, Indiana, President Bobby Fong, Coach Todd Lickliter, and the outstanding basketball team, affectionately named the Butler Bulldogs.

The Bulldogs, despite previous rejection from previous participation in the championship games, won last Saturday over Louisville by 79 to 71, to advance to the Sweet 16 of the NCAA Men's Basketball Championship.

Coach Todd Lickliter, son of a coach, led the Bulldogs to an outstanding season record of 27 to 5 overall. As winners of the Horizon League's regular season crown, Coach Lickliter and his team earned an at-large bid to the NCAA tournament.

I commend the Bulldog players whose outstanding teamwork has led them to the Sweet 16: Brandon Miller, Joel Cornette, Duane Lightfoot, Darnell Archey, Mike Monserez, Avery Sheets, Lewis Curry, Bruce Horan, Ben Grunst, Jeff James, Mike Moore, Andy Grunst, Nick Gardner, Rob Walls and Ryan Reynolds.

The Bulldogs face Oklahoma, No. 1 seed of the East, in the NCAA East Regional semifinals this Friday in Albany, New York.

Not only do I want to commend Butler University for their athletic achievements, but I also want to make note of their high academic standards by acknowledging them as having the highest graduation rate, 86 percent, of all schools remaining in the tournament.

It has been an exceptional season for the Bulldogs who have defied all odds and truly excelled as a team. I applaud the Bulldogs' excellent performance and sportsmanship and wish them good luck in this Friday's game.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BLACKBURN). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. SMITH) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. SMITH of Michigan addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DEFAZIO of Oregon addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

MISTREATMENT OF OUR NATION'S VETERANS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 2003, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the subject of this special order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from California?

There was no objection.

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I am joined here on the floor of the House of Representatives by my colleagues to simply bring to the attention of the President of the United States and to our Republican colleagues the mistakes they are making in the way they are mistreating our Nation's veterans in the 2004 budget that passed our House in the wee hours of the morning last Friday.

The irony of the President of the United States leading the deep and harmful cuts in this budget while we are in the middle of a war in the Persian Gulf, with our brave men and women in harm's way, is more than any American can understand. The veterans of this country are honored in ceremonies on Veterans Day and Memorial Day and at conventions, dinners, receptions and on and on and on, but when it comes to putting our money where our mouths are, increasingly we are abandoning our veterans and not taking care of their needs, as we promise them when we recruit them and when we benefit from their services.

God willing, these young men and women fighting in Iraq will some day be veterans. They are going to have medical needs, housing needs; and we will need to pay for special programs and services to attend to the problems that they will have created by their service to this country. How then can we in good conscience turn our backs on these young men and women by cutting their budgets? We should be happy to provide services for our veterans.

The President of the United States will probably try and tell the American public that we really cannot afford to take care of our veterans, but how can the President explain to our veterans why he insisted on a \$1.3 trillion tax cut in 2001 and has come back to Congress with a demand for \$675 billion in new tax cuts, tax cuts that benefit the wealthiest people in our society?

Madam Speaker, it does not take a Harvard scholar to know we cannot keep cutting and cutting and cutting our income and pay for our basic services and have money for a rainy day. This President is simply mismanaging this country. We are now in deficit. The economy is failing. Our President and the members of his party have failed to come up with a stimulus package, and we have placed our Social Security system in jeopardy. Education is underfunded, and millions of Americans have no health care. But one of the most unconscionable consequences of the Republican budget is the deep and devastating cuts to our veterans.